

CLAIMS

We claim:

1. A system for compiling a sequence of blocks suitable for producing an audio and/or video output sequence having a prescribed duration, said system comprising:

a stored data table referencing one or more audio and/or video source segments wherein said table contains entries to partition each of said segments into multiple data blocks;

said table entries defining the characteristics of each block including its duration, its suitability to begin or end a sequence, and its interblock compatibility;

a user interface for enabling a user to prescribe a sequence duration; and

a block sequence compiler for iteratively compiling a list of one or more sequences each comprised of a plurality of blocks selected according to said user-prescribed sequence duration such that each said sequence conforms with said table entries.

2. The system of claim 1 additionally comprising means for displaying said list.

3. The system of claim 1 additionally comprising means to store at least one said sequence from said list.

4. The system of claim 1 additionally comprising means to play a selected sequence from said list.

1 9. The system of claim 1 wherein said user interface
2 additionally enables a user to prescribe one of said audio and/or
3 video source segments and said processor compiles sequences of
4 blocks selected from said user-prescribed segment.

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6 10. The system of claim 1 wherein said table
7 additionally comprises data corresponding to a static parameter
8 for each said block and said block sequence compiler can select
9 a ending block having said static parameter set and wherein such
10 static blocks can be extended to form sequences of said user-
11 prescribed duration.

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1 11. A method for compiling a sequence of blocks
2 suitable for producing an audio and/or video output sequence of
3 a prescribed duration, said method comprising the steps of:
4 providing data corresponding to at least one
5 audio and/or video source segment;
6 defining multiple data blocks corresponding to
7 portions of said source segment and indicating characteristics
8 corresponding to the duration of each block;
9 assigning characteristics to each block
10 corresponding to the suitability of each block to begin or end a
11 sequence and the interblock compatibility of each block;
12 defining a desired duration for an output
13 sequence; and
14 iteratively compiling a list of one or more
15 sequences each comprised of a plurality of blocks according to
16 said desired duration such that each said sequence conforms with
17 said characteristics of each block.
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19 12. The method of claim 11 additionally comprising
20 the step of selecting one of said source segments and wherein
21 said iteratively compiling step compiles sequences of blocks from
22 those blocks corresponding to said selected segment.
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24 13. The method of claim 11 additionally comprising
25 the step of displaying said compiled list.
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1 14. The method of claim 11 additionally comprising
2 the steps of:
3 selecting one of said output sequences from said
4 compiled list; and
5 outputting said selected sequence.

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1 15. A method for compiling a sequence of blocks
2 suitable for producing an audio and/or video output sequence of
3 a prescribed duration from an audio and/or video source segment
4 having multiple data blocks corresponding to portions of said
5 source segment and indicating characteristics of each block
6 corresponding to its duration, its suitability of each block to
7 begin or end a sequence, and its interblock compatibility, said
8 method comprising the steps of:

9 defining a desired duration for an audio and/or
10 video output sequence; and

11 iteratively compiling a list of one or more
12 sequences each comprised of a plurality of blocks according to
13 said desired duration such that each said sequence conforms with
14 said characteristics of each block.

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1 16. A system for compiling a sequence of blocks
2 suitable for producing a repeatable audio and/or video output
3 sequence having a prescribed duration, said system comprising:

4 a stored data table referencing one or more audio
5 and/or video source segments wherein said table contains entries
6 to partition each of said segments into multiple data blocks;

7 said table entries defining the characteristics
8 of each block including its duration and its interblock
9 compatibility;

10 a user interface for enabling a user to prescribe
11 a sequence duration; and

12 a block sequence compiler for iteratively
13 compiling a list of one or more repeatable sequences each
14 comprised of a plurality of blocks selected to conform to said
15 user-prescribed sequence duration and such that each said
16 sequence conforms with said table entries.

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18 17. The system of claim 16 additionally comprising
19 means for displaying said list.

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21 18. The system of claim 16 wherein each said
22 repeatable sequence comprises at least a first block and a last
23 block and wherein said last block of each said repeatable
24 sequence is selected such that the first block of each said
25 repeatable sequence is compatible, according to said table
26 entries, to sequentially follow said last block of each said
27 repeatable sequence.

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1 19. The system of claim 16 wherein said table entries
2 additionally include a reversible parameter to identify blocks
3 suitable for playing both in a forward or in a reverse direction
4 and each said block selected by said block sequence compiler has
5 said reversible parameter set.

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